

2021 AmeriCorps Information Session

Volunteer Tennessee



Agenda Overview

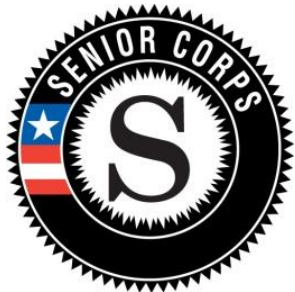
- Overview of National Service and Volunteer Tennessee
- Is AmeriCorps Right for Your Agency?
- 2021 Notice of Funding Opportunity



CNCS Programs



- AmeriCorps State and National
- AmeriCorps VISTA
- AmeriCorps NCCC



- Foster Grandparents
- Senior Companions
- RSVP

www.nationalservice.gov





MISSION

To encourage volunteerism and community service.

VISION

The State of Tennessee is the national leader in the promotion of volunteerism, community service initiatives and partnerships in which its citizens of all ages and backgrounds engage in services addressing the educational, public safety, environmental and other human needs of the state and nation.

Volunteer Tennessee Programs

- AmeriCorps State
- Volunteer Generation Fund
- Tennessee Conference on Volunteerism and Service-Learning
- Governor's Volunteer Stars Awards
- Tennessee Serves Volunteer Portal

www.volunteertennessee.net





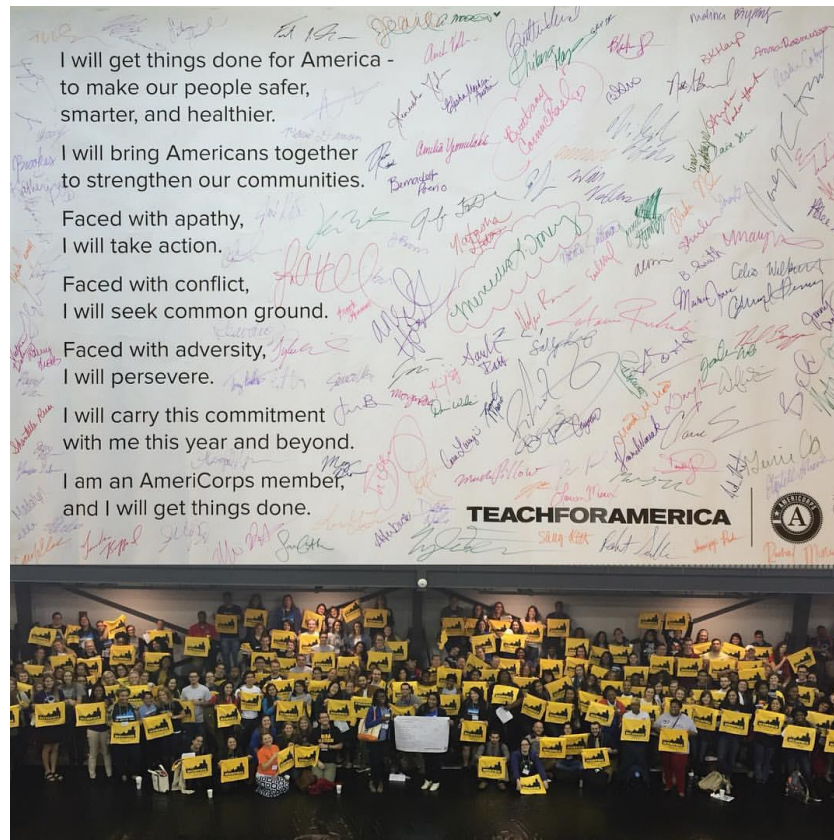
CAC AmeriCorps

- CAC AmeriCorps
 - Knox County
 - Environmental Conservation and Education



Teach For America

- Nashville-Chattanooga and Memphis
- Professional Corps – training teachers in classrooms



Bridge Builders

- Memphis
- Encourages confidence and leadership in young people



Investment and Benefits of an AmeriCorps Program

- Agency Benefits
 - Increased capacity and service delivery to community
 - Strong members may become strong staff after service
 - Increase agency visibility
- AmeriCorps Member Benefits
 - Training
 - Living Allowance
 - Education Award Equal to Pell Grant
 - Service-learning opportunity to create marketable skills



Investment and Benefits of an AmeriCorps Program

- Agency Investments
 - Cost-Reimbursement Grant – 24% minimum cash and/or in-kind match
 - Dedicated Program Director
 - Fiscal staff
- Volunteer Tennessee Investments
 - Provide federal funding
 - Programmatic and fiscal systems support
 - Local & national training opportunities
 - Organized event days
 - Guidance and daily support



Is AmeriCorps Right for Me?

- Does AmeriCorps fit your agency?
 - 501(c)3 or government agency
 - Staff capacity to manage program
 - Strong fiscal systems
 - Ability to comply with federal funding requirement
- Refer to “Is My Organization Ready?” checklist on the Volunteer Tennessee Funding Opportunities webpage



2021 Funding Process

Volunteer Tennessee's website is
www.volunteertennessee.net.

The Notice of Funding Opportunity,
Application Instructions, Mandatory
Supplemental Information, and other
related information and resources can be
found on the Funding Opportunities page
once the NOFO is released.



Volunteer TN

[About Us](#) ▾[Programs](#) ▾**Funding Opportunities****Funding Opportunities**[Events & Trainings](#) ▾

Funding Opportunities

2017-2018 AmeriCorps Funding Process

Volunteer Tennessee will accept applications from agencies proposing new and continuation AmeriCorps programs for the 2017-18 program year. Non-profit organizations and government agencies in Tennessee are eligible to apply for funds to operate local AmeriCorps programs that meet locally identified needs in the areas of disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, healthy futures, and veterans and military families. See below for detailed information on the AmeriCorps funding process.



[2017 Volunteer Tennessee AmeriCorps Notice of Funding Opportunity and Application Instructions](#)

[2017 Volunteer Tennessee AmeriCorps Funding Timeline](#)

[2017 Performance Measure Instructions](#)

[Logic Model Worksheet](#)

[Sample Cost Reimbursement Budget](#)

[Is My Organization Ready?](#) - assess your organization's capacity to host an AmeriCorps program.

Important Dates

- 12/16 AmeriCorps Formula Letter of Intent due to Volunteer Tennessee
- 2/12/21 Formula applications due to Volunteer Tennessee by 3:00 p.m. CST. Pre-Award Risk Assessment information due from new AmeriCorps Formula Applicants. Verification of SAM/CCR registration due from AmeriCorps Formula Applicants.
- 5/25 Inform applicants of Formula funding decision and provide Application Feedback to funded programs.



CNCS & VT Funding Priorities

- CNCS
 - COVID-19 Relief
 - Advancing Racial Equality
 - Economic Opportunity
 - Education
 - Environmental Stewardship
 - Healthy Futures
 - Veterans and Military Families
 - Rural Intermediaries
 - Faith-based Organizations
 - Child Poverty
 - Economic Mobility Corps
- Volunteer TN
 - TN Distressed Counties
 - Prisoner Re-entry
 - K-3 Reading Success and/or College Readiness



Types of Awards

Grant Types	Cost Reimbursement	Fixed Amount			
Available Subtypes	Traditional	Full-Cost	Education Award Program (EAP)	Professional Corps See Sec. D.6.a.2 for further requirements	No Cost Slots
Maximum Cost per MSY	\$16,300	\$16,300	\$800 or \$1,000*	\$1,000	\$0
Type of Slots in the National Service Trust	Full-time, Three Quarter-time, Half-time, Reduced half-time, Quarter-time, Minimum Time, Abbreviated Time	Full-time, Three Quarter-time, Half-time, Reduced half-time, Quarter-time, Minimum Time, Abbreviated Time	Full-time, Three Quarter-time, Half-time, Reduced half-time, Quarter-time, Minimum Time, Abbreviated Time	Full-time only	Full-time, Three Quarter-time, Half-time, Reduced half-time, Quarter-time, Minimum Time, Abbreviated Time
Budget Submission Required	Yes	No		Yes, if requesting operating funds	No
Availability of Funds linked to enrollment and retention of awarded MSYs	No	Yes			
Special Requirements	N/A	N/A		Must place qualified professionals in communities with an inadequate number of such professionals. Member salaries and benefits must be paid entirely by organization where member serves and not included in budget.	N/A
Financial Reporting Requirements	Yes	No			
Available to new Applicants	Yes	Yes (if applying for State Formula funding)	Yes		

Member Service Terms and MSY

Maximum Cost Per MSY

Grant Program	Maximum
Cost Reimbursement Grant	\$16,300*
Professional Corps Grant (Fixed Amount)	\$1,000**
Education Award Program (EAP) Grant (Fixed Amount)	\$800 or \$1,000***
Full-Cost Fixed Amount Grant	\$16,300

Slot Type and Living Allowance

Service Term	Minimum # of Hours	Minimum Living Allowance	Maximum Total Living Allowance
Full-time	1,700	\$15,100	\$30,200
Three Quarter-time	1,200	n/a	\$21,318
Half-time	900	n/a	\$15,988
Reduced Half-time	675	n/a	\$11,991
Quarter-time	450	n/a	\$7,994
Minimum-time	300	n/a	\$5,329
Abbreviated-time	100	n/a	\$1,776

The Application

Categories/Subcategories	Percentage
Executive Summary	0
Program Design	50
Theory of Change and Logic Model	24
Evidence Tier	12
Evidence Quality	8
Notice Priority	0
Member Experience	6
Organizational Capability	25
Organizational Background and Staffing	9
Compliance and Accountability	8
Culture That Values Learning	4
Member Supervision	4
Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy	25



Performance Measures

- All applicants must submit performance measures with their application. See Attachment A for instructions for entering performance measures and the Performance Measures Instructions for details about the number and type of performance measures required.
- All programs are required to have at least one aligned performance measure (output and outcome).
- Quality over quantity!



A Note about Evidence

- The Notice will provide a great deal of detailed information about Evidence Base selection criteria.
- **All levels of evidence** are encouraged to apply and are funded.
- In 2020, the evidence tiers of successful AmeriCorps State and National applicants that were competing were as follows: Strong 26%, Moderate 18%, Preliminary 24%, and Pre-Preliminary 32%.



eGrants

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Additional Information

- Submitted applications will be assessed against the criteria contained on the NOFO and funding decisions will be based on the criteria described in the Application Review Information section of the NOFO.
- Selected applicants will be required to comply with a number of Volunteer Tennessee and federal requirements, including adhering to Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Grants, complying with National Service Criminal History Check Requirements, and reporting, each of which will be described in the NOFO.
- The remaining pages of the NOFO will contain resources that applicants may find helpful as they navigate the application process.



Other Ways to be Involved

- Partner with current national service programs
- Employers of National Service
- Tennessee Conference on Volunteerism and Service-Learning
- Governor's Volunteer Stars Awards
- Get involved in national days of service
 - MLK Day
 - Make A Difference Day
 - 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance



Important Websites

- Please visit www.americorps.gov for information related to AmeriCorps and the Corporation for National and Community Service.
- Please visit www.volunteertennessee.net for the Tennessee AmeriCorps State Notice of Funding Opportunity.
- Please visit Egrants.cns.gov to start an eGrants account.



Thank You

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